



**CAPT.
JOHN DISEBASTIAN**
Air Force Operational Test
and Evaluation Center
Honor Guard of the Quarter



**SENIOR AIRMAN
LONA CONRAD**
377th Medical Operations
Squadron
Airman of the Quarter



**STAFF SGT.
LAWRENCE CARTER**
377th Medical
Support Squadron
Noncommissioned
Officer of the Quarter



**SENIOR MASTER SGT.
RICHARD GORNAL**
Kirtland NCO Academy
Senior Noncommissioned
Officer of the Quarter



**2ND LT.
GERALD FENSTERER**
Detachment 1, Test and
Evaluation Squadron
Company Grade
Officer of the Quarter

TEAM KIRTLAND announces outstanding people of quarter



DELIA ECKERMAN
377th Services Squadron
Civilian Category I
of the Quarter



CLARA TORRES
Air Force Research
Laboratory, Directed
Energy Directorate
Civilian Category II
of the Quarter



KATHRYN MELIDONES
Air Force Research
Laboratory, Directed Energy
Directorate
Civilian Category III
of the Quarter



**CHRISTINA
KRISINGER**
377th Medical Operations
Squadron
Civilian Category IV
of the Quarter



Character—the courage to do the right thing

BY GEN. JOHN P. JUMPER

Air Force Chief of Staff

Our Air Force has a proud history of accomplishments that traces directly to the quality of people that make up the total Air Force team.

At every base, wing, and deployed site our Airmen rise to challenges every day demonstrating their loyalty and dedication. I am proud to be part of this prestigious team. But, I am always dismayed when I learn of an Airman who, as a result of a bad decision, faces disciplinary action.

I wonder if there was a way to help this person, or if someone sitting down with this Airman could have prevented this situation. Because of this, I feel it is essential to reinforce the full meaning of our concepts of character and the standards our core values provide us.

Character comprises the emotional, intellectual, and moral qualities that distinguish one group from another—and the judgment to discern them.

Our core values and the unique demands of military service undergird our Air Force character. These values—Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do—endure as the fundamental standards of behavior of our Air Force team.

But, character can be an elusive concept not readily apparent, as it encompasses so many qualities. The true foundation of character is not merely knowing the right thing to do, but also having a firm conviction and the courage to act upon such knowledge.

This conviction requires solid moral fiber and ethical strength to do what is right even if no one is there to witness your actions. Our actions over time define our character, just as our character delineates our lasting reputation.

When we make the wrong choices, both our character and our reputation are damaged.

Character can rapidly deteriorate when we fail to hold others and ourselves to the high standards our Air Force profession demands.

The responsibility of enforcing core values does not fall solely to senior leaders and commanders. Every Airman must embrace and reflect these values, both on and off-duty. We must reflect these fundamental values in our daily conduct and help develop those attitudes in others.

If you see a fellow worker or friend cut corners and don't say anything, you are condoning what they are doing. Failing to correct or report instances where the rules are broken, selectively enforcing rules, or turning a blind-eye to marginal behavior or performance can perpetuate negative attitudes that can infect organizations.

We are all responsible for each other and it is essential that we all share a collective sense of mission, values and culture. If we don't, we become part of the problem, and jeopardize the mission and the lives of our men and women.

Every member of the Air Force must embrace our core values as the guiding light that drives what we do. I challenge each of you to apply this philosophy in your service to the Air Force and this great nation.

Building character is a lifelong journey—remember, it is not just knowing the right thing to do; it is having the courage to do it. We have a responsibility to ourselves, the Air Force, and our nation to maintain a team of unquestionable character.



Chapel hosts Gospel Fest

Gospel Fest, a celebration of Christian music with lots of heart and soul, is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m., Feb. 22, in the Chapel.

The Protestant Community of Kirtland AFB sponsors Gospel Fest. The chapel's Gospel Community and Gospel Choir coordinate the annual festival.

Choirs from around the city will join in the festivities. This annual event is held in conjunction with African-American Heritage Month.



Command chaplain preaches

Chap., Col., Nat Crawford, Air Force Materiel Command command chaplain, will preach at the 10:30 a.m., Protestant Service, Feb. 22.

GENERALS

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in charge of a \$2 billion program responsible for building the world's first combat aircraft using a high-powered laser as a weapon since 2000.

She has previously been assigned as deputy assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Counterproliferation, Washington, and as deputy director of Global Power Programs for the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Washington.

Colonel McCasland, an Air Force Academy graduate who holds a doctorate in astronautical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has served as chief engineer of the NAVSTAR Global Positioning System Joint Program Office and as system program director of the Space Based Laser Project at the Space and Missile Systems Center.